

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
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I am appalled that sick or injured (Downed) animals are allowed into the human food chain. These animals should not be allowed to enter the human food chain because of the possible contamination that can occur among humans who consume these sick or injured animals.

In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

I urge the Food and Drug Administration to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Sincerely,



Angela Hill
107 25th Ave So.
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Cc: Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Representative Jim McDermott

98P-0151

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